

IN THE CLAIMS:

The pending claims are set forth below and have been amended and/or cancelled, without prejudice, where noted:

1. (Currently Amended) A polystyrene blend comprising a blend of polystyrene and a polymer selected from the group consisting of syndiotactic polypropylene, ethylene propylene copolymer, styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymers, and mixtures thereof, wherein the blend is prepared by solution polymerization and the polystyrene blend comprises from about 80 wt.% to about 95 wt.% polystyrene.
2. (Original) The polystyrene blend of Claim 1 additionally comprising performing the solution polymerization using a graft-promoting agent.
3. (Original) The polystyrene blend of Claim 2 wherein the graft-promoting agent is maleic anhydride.
4. (Original) The polystyrene blend of Claim 1 additionally comprising performing the solution polymerization using a chain transfer agent.
5. (Original) The polystyrene blend of Claim 4 wherein the chain transfer agent is dodecyl mercaptan.
6. (Original) The polystyrene blend of Claim 1 additionally comprising performing the solution polymerization using a cross linking agent.
7. (Original) The polystyrene blend of Claim 6 wherein the cross linking agent is divinyl benzene.
8. (Original) The polystyrene blend of Claim 1 additionally comprising an additive.

9. (Original) The polystyrene blend of Claim 8 wherein the additive is selected from the group consisting of fillers, anti-oxidants, UV stabilizers, mineral oil, and mixtures thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) The A polystyrene blend of Claim 1 comprising a blend of polystyrene and a polymer selected from the group consisting of syndiotactic polypropylene, ethylene propylene copolymer, styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymers, and mixtures thereof, wherein the blend is prepared by solution polymerization and wherein the blend is composed primarily of polystyrene and syndiotactic polypropylene, and the weight ratio of polystyrene to syndiotactic polypropylene, PS:sPP, is from about 19:1 to about 4:1.

11. (Original) The polystyrene blend of Claim 1 wherein the blend is composed primarily of polystyrene and ethylene polypropylene copolymer, and the weight ratio of polystyrene to ethylene polypropylene copolymer, PS:EPC, is from about 19:1 to about 4:1.

12-20. (Cancelled)